



Town of Groton, Connecticut

Meeting Agenda

45 Fort Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk (860)441-6640
Town Manager (860)441-6630

Town Council

Mayor Harry A. Watson, Councilors Heather Sherman Bond, Kathryn M. Brown-Tracy, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Rita M. Schmidt, Paulann H. Sheets, and James L. Streeter

Tuesday, March 04, 2008

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

REGULAR MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

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| 2008-0062 | Proclamation Recognizing Robert Butler, Greg Erb, Shelly Erb and John Roberts | Proclamation - TC |
| 2008-0053 | Proclamation Recognizing the Groton Board of Education | Proclamation - TC |

IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

This is the portion of the Council Agenda where the Council welcomes comments from citizens. Each presentation should be limited to five (5) minutes or less, and citizens should, if possible, submit written comments. Presentations should be related to matters pertinent to Groton. Town Councilors will only ask questions in order to clarify the speaker's presentation and can respond during the Responses to Citizens' Petitions portion of the Town Council meeting. Citizens should make their presentations from the lectern and state their names and addresses for the record.

V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under Item VI (Consent Calendar) are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion of these items will take place, unless cause is shown prior to the time Council votes on the motion to adopt.

a. Approval of Minutes

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| 2008-0060 | Approval of Minutes (Town Council) | Resolution - Consent |
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RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of February 19, 2008 are hereby accepted and approved.

b. Administrative Items

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| 2008-0052 | Special Trust Fund Contributions | Resolution - Consent |
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RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Marlene Terry Ziegler (in memory of Mildred Glaza) - \$36.00 - Library Discretionary

Various Donations - \$1,723.67 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

Alexandra McCune - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

David Porter - \$50.00 - Library Discretionary

c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2007-0274	Regulations for Parks and Recreation Facilities	Referral
2008-0055	Department of Transportation Elderly and Disabled Transportation Grant	Referral
2008-0058	Acceptance of Flanders Road Utilities Extension Committee Report	Resolution
2008-0059	Burnett's Corners Preservation Society Plan	Resolution

VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)

- a. Town Councilors
- b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting
- c. Clerk of the Council
- d. Town Manager
- e. Town Attorney

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Brown-Tracy
- b. Economic Development - Chairman Bond
- c. Education/Health & Social Services - Chairman Kolnaski
- d. Environment/Energy - Chairman Sheets
- e. Finance - Chairman Schmidt
- f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman O'Beirne
- g. Public Safety - Chairman Streeter
- h. Public Works/Recreation - Chairman Monteiro
- i. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Watson

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

2007-0274	Regulations for Parks and Recreation Facilities	Referral
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RESOLUTION APPROVING REVISED REGULATIONS FOR PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

WHEREAS, the Groton Parks and Recreation Commission is authorized, pursuant to Section 5.10.2 of the Groton Town Charter, to make rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Town Council, and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission has completed a revision of the regulations, adopted February 19, 2008, and the Town Council has reviewed and considered the revised provisions, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the Regulations for Parks and Recreation facilities dated February 19, 2008.

Legislative History

11/19/2007 Mayor Referred Town Council Committee of the Whole
 11/27/2007 Town Council Committee of the Whole Discussed

Director of Parks and Recreation John Silsby noted the proposed regulations cover the parks and recreation facilities in Town. The regulations are usually reviewed on an annual basis by the Parks Commission. Mr. Silsby highlighted proposed changes including controlling the use of the fields at Poquonnock Plains Park through the use of a priority system and flag system. Councilor Monteiro questioned the limits on the use of the fields.

Town Manager Oefinger noted the need to clarify some of the language in the regulations, noting that "pick up" games are not allowed at the field and non-organized group play should be addressed. Mr. Silsby noted that use of Poquonnock Plains must be controlled and other fields must be developed so that groups are encouraged to use them.

Councilor Bond asked if the park was always designed to be a league only field or has it evolved. Town Manager Oefinger provided some history on Poquonnock Plains Park.

Jerry Lokken noted that Poquonnock Plains is a park and athletic field and it is hard to draw a line between the two. It would be better to provide more facilities.

Councilor Monteiro shared Councilor Bond's concerns and encouraged Parks and Recreation to work on providing athletic field facilities in other areas to address the situation described.

Town Manager Oefinger suggested the wording be reworked and that this item be tabled until that time.

Councilor Sheets suggested that the Town Attorney review the sign regulations. Mr. Silsby noted the regulations are currently being reviewed by the Town Attorney.

Councilor Streeter expressed concerned with use of Poquonnock Plains Park by outside residents. Mr. Lokken noted that outside groups are the lowest priority and the Town has never issued a permit to an entirely outside group.

The Council asked staff to provide examples of the activities that take place at Poquonnock Plains Park.

Councilor Bond suggested defining parking in the dirt area to allow more people to park.

Mr. Silsby then reviewed changes to the golf course regulations.

2/26/2008 Town Council Committee of the Whole Discussed

2/26/2008 Town Council Committee of the Whole Recommended for a Resolution

2008-0055 Department of Transportation Elderly and Disabled Transportation Grant Referral

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT AGREEMENT FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2006, the Groton Town Council authorized the Town Manager to apply for grants, and to enter into agreements, for dial-a-ride grants for the transportation of elderly and disabled persons, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton is eligible to participate in a regional effort including several nearby towns, for which a grant of \$131,444 is available from the State of Connecticut, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger is authorized to enter into an agreement on behalf of the Town of Groton with the Department of Transportation of the State of Connecticut for the Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation Expanded Program, and to affix the corporate seal.

Legislative History

2/26/2008 Town Council Committee of Discussed
the Whole

2/26/2008 Town Council Committee of Recommended for a
the Whole Resolution

2008-0058 Acceptance of Flanders Road Utilities Extension Resolution
Committee Report

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE REPORT OF THE FLANDERS ROAD UTILITIES
EXTENSION COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, on December 6, 2006, the Town Council authorized the appointment of a Flanders Road Utilities Extension Committee, and

WHEREAS, that Committee, chaired by Councilor Bond, has held numerous meetings and has obtained advice and technical assistance from Town staff and from qualified consultants, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has reviewed and discussed the February, 2008, report by the Flanders Road Utilities Extension Committee, and

WHEREAS, the said report recommends that the Town Council endorse the preferred route identified by the Committee, appropriate funds in the FY 2009 Capital Improvement Program to obtain professional services for developing design plans and detailed cost estimates for the preferred route, and authorize the Town Manager to work with appropriate interested parties concerning project designs, costs and benefits, and to pursue funding sources, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council accepts the report of the Flanders Road Utilities Extension Committee and undertakes to further the Short Range Action Plan presented therein.

Legislative History

2/26/2008 Town Council Committee of Recommended for a
the Whole Resolution

2008-0059 Burnett's Corners Preservation Society Plan Resolution

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PLAN AND GRANTING A PERIOD OF TIME FOR THE
BURNETT'S CORNERS PRESERVATION SOCIETY

WHEREAS, by a Quit Claim deed executed on September 22, 1995, and recorded in Groton Land Records at Volume 612, Page 882, the Town of Groton conveyed a property and premises called Old Masonic Hall to the Burnett's Corners Preservation Society, Inc., and

WHEREAS, the deed of conveyance required the releasee Preservation Society to complete certain "stabilization work" by December 31, 1995, to the satisfaction of the Town, said deed also providing for the property to revert to the releasor, Town of Groton, under a specified condition and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has inquired of the Preservation Society and its officers numerous times during the succeeding period about the apparent lack of stabilization, and

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2008, officers of the Preservation Society presented to the Town Council a "Proposal to Improve Exterior Appearance of Old Masonic Hall," such proposed work to be completed by mid-summer of 2008, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council accepts said proposal and requires that the Preservation Society appear and report that the tasks of said proposal have been completed, to the satisfaction of the Town Council, not later than September 1, 2008, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Council asserts that neither this resolution nor any prior act on its part may be deemed to waive, diminish or moot the right of the Town of Groton in its option to require that such property and premises shall revert to and vest absolutely in the Town of Groton in the event the Town Council deems that required stabilization work has not been completed to the Town Council's satisfaction.

Legislative History

2/26/2008	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution
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XI. OTHER BUSINESS

XII. ADJOURNMENT